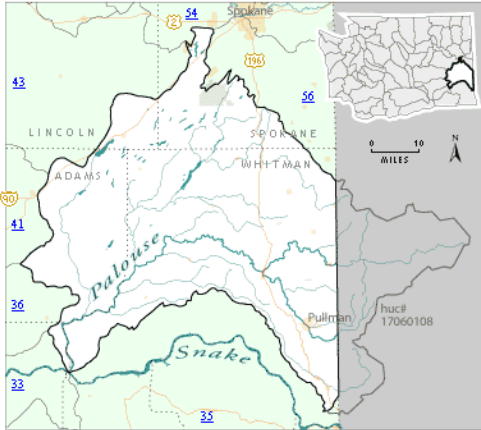


## Palouse Basin - WRIA #34

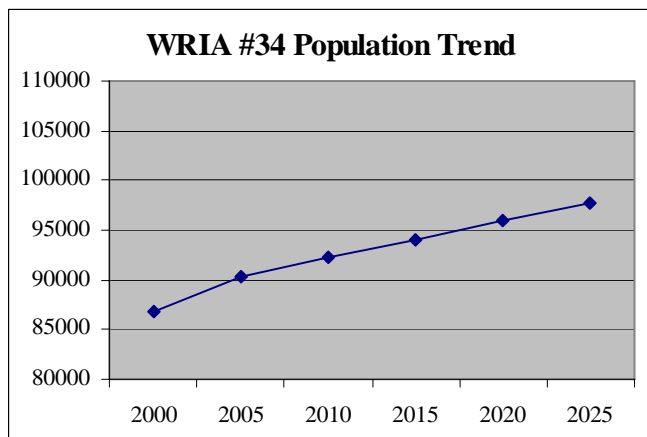


### Watershed Description

**WRIA #34** encompasses about 1,765,152 acres. Located in the heart of the Palouse, this watershed receives an average annual rainfall of 13 inches per year. It is part of the Columbia Basin ecoregion. The Palouse Basin is characterized by dune-like ridges, deep loess soils, and low gradient intermittent, streams. Soils are high in organic matter and clay, and are highly productive.

### Population

There are approximately 88,656 people living in the Palouse Basin. The primary population centers are Pullman, Medical Lake, and Colfax. Nearly one-half of the population lives in unincorporated areas. The population graph reflects the combined projected population of those counties located within the watershed (Office of Financial Management population projections).



Counties	% of basin
Whitman	62%
Adams	20%
Spokane	13%
Lincoln	4%
Franklin	1%

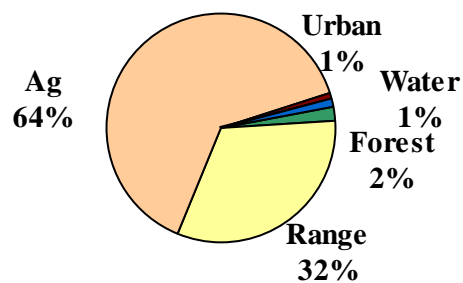
Tribal Reservation Lands in WRIA #34
none

**Land ownership** for WRIA #34 includes federal, state, and private lands. Data was derived from the Public Lands Survey by Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Land Ownership	Acres	Proportion
Federal	42,668	2.4%
State	72,200	4.1%
Local	0	0%
Tribal	0	0%
Private	1,650,282	93.5%

**Land use** in the Palouse Basin is mainly agriculture and range related uses. The general type of known land-use activities within the watershed is graphed according to the percentage of its occurrence.

**Land use in the Palouse Basin**



**The primary towns and cities in WRIA #34 include** Pullman, Colfax, Sprague, Medical Lake, Palouse, and Garfield.

### **Legislative and Congressional Districts**

To determine your region's legislative or congressional district, see:

<http://www1.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/Default.aspx>

To determine **Latitude/Longitude coordinates**, see:

<http://www.topozone.com/>

(Make sure you set the button on the bottom of the page to D/M/S - hold the cursor over a spot on the map and the coordinates show at the bottom of the screen.)

Several federal programs refer to watersheds according to their Hydrological Unit Code (HUC). To learn more about your watershed and determine which **HUC** your town or county is located in, see:

<http://water.usgs.gov/wsc/>

## **Water Quality**

### **Water Quality Assessment**

The statewide Water Quality Assessment categorizes waterbody segments that have water quality data available. The Simple Query Tool and interactive mapping tool allow you to search for specific categories, water bodies, pollutant parameters and other information, in whatever combination you choose. **WRIA #34** has sixty-three (63) known Category 5 (impaired) water bodies.

To view the Water Quality Assessment, use the Simple Query Tool.

<http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/wats/WATSOBEHome.asp>

To view the Water Quality Assessment by Category, choose the Category (1 – 5) you are interested in from the drop down box. To view it by Water Resource Inventory Resource Area (WRIA), choose the WRIA number you are interested in from the drop down box.

Use the Interactive Mapping Tool to see a graphic representation of the Water Quality Assessment. This is a Geographic Information System (GIS) application that helps you find waters you are interested in and information about problems in that water body.

<http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/wqawa/viewer.htm>

## **Domestic Water Supply**

No significant use of surface water sources. For further information regarding water supplies, see:

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/default.htm>

## Salmonid Stock Status

Good water quality is important to help salmon survive and thrive. To find out which salmon species are listed as threatened or endangered in a region, see:

<http://www.governor.wa.gov/gsro/regions/map.htm>

## Air Quality

Water quality can be affected by air quality; for example, windblown dust from construction sites or bare, dry agricultural lands, especially fallow fields, may be transported to waterways. For information about air quality, see:

[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/Windblown\\_dust\\_information.htm](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/aginfo/Windblown_dust_information.htm)

## TMDLs and Other Watershed-Based Plans

For information about Total Maximum Daily Loads (**TMDLs**) in your area, see:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/tmdl/>

To learn more about **watershed planning** in Washington State, see:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/watershed/index.html>

For **funding applicants**, other useful links can be found at:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/funding/links.html>